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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 1

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Nathan P. Cote

FOR THE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO STUDY THE
BENEFITS AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR
ACCEPTING MILITARY CREDIT AND ARTICULATION AMONG ALL COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the legislature has the goal of providing
educational opportunities for all members of the United States
armed forces; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a history of educating active duty
military and civilian leaders; and

WHEREAS, the legislature is committed to lifelong learning
for military personnel and helps with tuition costs; and

WHEREAS, servicemembers who frequently move from place to
place have trouble completing college degrees; and

WHEREAS, military-friendly institutions that have flexible

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1 policies can assist mobile servicemembers and their families to
2 complete degrees rather than just accumulate course credits;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, articulation agreements facilitate the easy
5 transfer of credits from one educational institution to
6 another; and

7 WHEREAS, the servicemembers opportunity colleges
8 consortium facilitates the acceptance of military credit and
9 articulation in cooperation with fifteen higher education
10 associations, the department of defense and active and reserve
11 components of the military services; and

12 WHEREAS, fifteen colleges and universities in New Mexico,
13 including the university of New Mexico and New Mexico state
14 university, are servicemembers opportunity colleges consortium
15 member institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, for more than a half century, the American
17 council on education's guide to the evaluation of educational
18 experiences in the armed services has been the standard
19 reference work for recognizing learning acquired in the
20 military; and

21 WHEREAS, currently, approximately one thousand eight
22 hundred appropriately accredited colleges and universities
23 recognize and use that guide in evaluating and awarding
24 academic credit for military training and experience and
25 provide associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees for

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1 servicemembers and their adult dependent family members;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department be
4 requested to study the benefits and feasibility of establishing
5 uniform standards for accepting military credit and
6 articulation among all colleges and universities in New Mexico
7 and present its findings to the appropriate interim committee
8 of the legislature by November 2010; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the secretary of higher education and the
11 governor.